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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

HM-626PCT

Applicant(s): Rolf Brisberger, et al

Serial No.: , NOT YET KNOWN (PCT/EP03/12792)

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For: METHOD AND DEVICE FOR HOT-DIP COATING A METAL STRAND

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

S I R:

In advance of the first office action, please amend the
claims as follows: